

Strategies for Choosing a Major at UCF: Career Planning Begins Now

Choosing a major is a major decision in life. These tips can help you in exploring career options that fit your interests and goals even if you are already declared. You should use a combination of **ALL** of the Strategies listed below. The following order is suggested, but you do not have to go in order. After you have completed a few of these steps, please set-up an appointment with your **Academic Advisor** or a **Career Services Counselor** to discuss your next move.

Major Exploration Questions	Websites	Completed
Where do I begin?		
Take the MyPlan Assessment ✓ Create an account, use the UCF group license code found at http://career.ucf.edu/links#explore ✓ Take four FREE assessments to determine how your values, interests, personality and skills match with certain majors and careers.	http://ucf.myplan.com/	
Choices Planner ✓ To access this site click: "Students, Adults and Postsecondary Sign In" → "Jump in Access" → "Choices Planner" → "Interest Profiler" → "Start Answering Questions"	https://access.bridges.com/auth/login.do?sponsor=7	
Review the Undergraduate Catalog ✓ Cross out the majors of disinterest. ✓ Make a chart of the pros and cons of each major of interest. ✓ Make a list of the group of majors that you would feel potentially rewarded by then see your academic advisor or a career counselor.	http://catalog.sdes.ucf.edu/	
What can I do with my UCF major? ✓ Review what careers you may be able to pursue with a specific major	http://whatcanidowiththismajor.com/major/	
What should I do next?		
Register for a 3-credit exploration course at UCF ✓ MHS 2330 (Career Planning): will assist you with career planning by assessing skills, values, interests and personality, making informed career and major decisions, learning about the job market, developing a resume, learning effective interview skills. ✓ MHS 2330 (COMPASS Career Planning) explore different majors/careers in the areas of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) through job shadowing, guest speakers, research opportunities, etc. ✓ SLS 1501 (Strategies for Success): A course designed to assist students in achieving the following goals: Adjusting to the UCF, developing effective college level study skills, refining interpersonal skills, exploring major and career opportunities, and becoming familiar with college success resources.	http://career.ucf.edu/majors-and-careers https://compass.ucf.edu/mhs-2330-2/ http://fye.sdes.ucf.edu/sls	
Externships ✓ 8 to 40 hours of hands-on experience and networking advantages. ✓ Offered every Winter Break, Spring Break and summer.	http://career.ucf.edu/majors-and-careers	

UCF / Lockheed Martin Work Experience Program ✓ Work for one of the most renowned companies in the world and gain relevant work experience in numerous different job fields like human resources, accounting, finance, engineering, statistics, etc.	http://career.ucf.edu/lockheed-martin	
Sign up for KnightLink ✓ Connect with professionals/alumni, create a resume, search job openings and much more.	https://ucf-csm.symplicity.com/students/index.php	
Occupational Outlook Handbook ✓ Find out interesting statistics like the amount of jobs that are projected to be available in your field of interest when you graduate. ✓ Make a chart of the pros and cons of each career of interest.	http://www.bls.gov/ooh/	
O*NET // Search for majors/careers by: ✓ Industry, Career cluster, Education/training required (Job Zone), etc. ✓ Abilities, Interest, Knowledge, Skills, etc. ✓ Specialty groups like STEM careers or “Green Economy” careers.	http://www.onetonline.org/	
Who should I talk to?		
Schedule an appointment with your Academic Advisor ✓ Call 407-823-3789 or go to Howard Phillips Hall (HPH), Room 116. ✓ Discuss your major/career search checklist, and learn about other academic resources.	http://fyae.sdes.ucf.edu/	
Schedule an appointment with a Career Counselor ✓ Call 407-823-2361 or go to the Career Services Building (CSEL) on Memory Mall. ✓ Discuss your career plans, interview skills, resume/cover letter formats, etc.	http://career.sdes.ucf.edu/	
Informational Interviews ✓ Communicate and network with professionals/alumni in your field(s) of interest to gain insight on whether it is a good fit for you.	http://career.ucf.edu/docs/informational_interviewing_handout.pdf	
How do I declare a major?		
Please set up an appointment with your first year advisor BEFORE you change OR declare a major. ✓ Complete the major change on MyUCF.	http://fyae.sdes.ucf.edu/documents/declaremajorminor.pdf https://youtu.be/soEMKn1EVNI	
Where can I find additional resources?		
The Major Exploration Program Website ✓ Find out about great Workshops/Activities that will help you on your major/career exploration journey.	http://mep.sdes.ucf.edu/	
Get involved on campus ✓ Contact the Office of Student Involvement (OSI) to see how you can get involved on campus and maybe even figure out your major/career through this experience.	http://osi.ucf.edu/	
Career Services – Additional resources ✓ Review additional online resources	http://career.ucf.edu/links#explore	